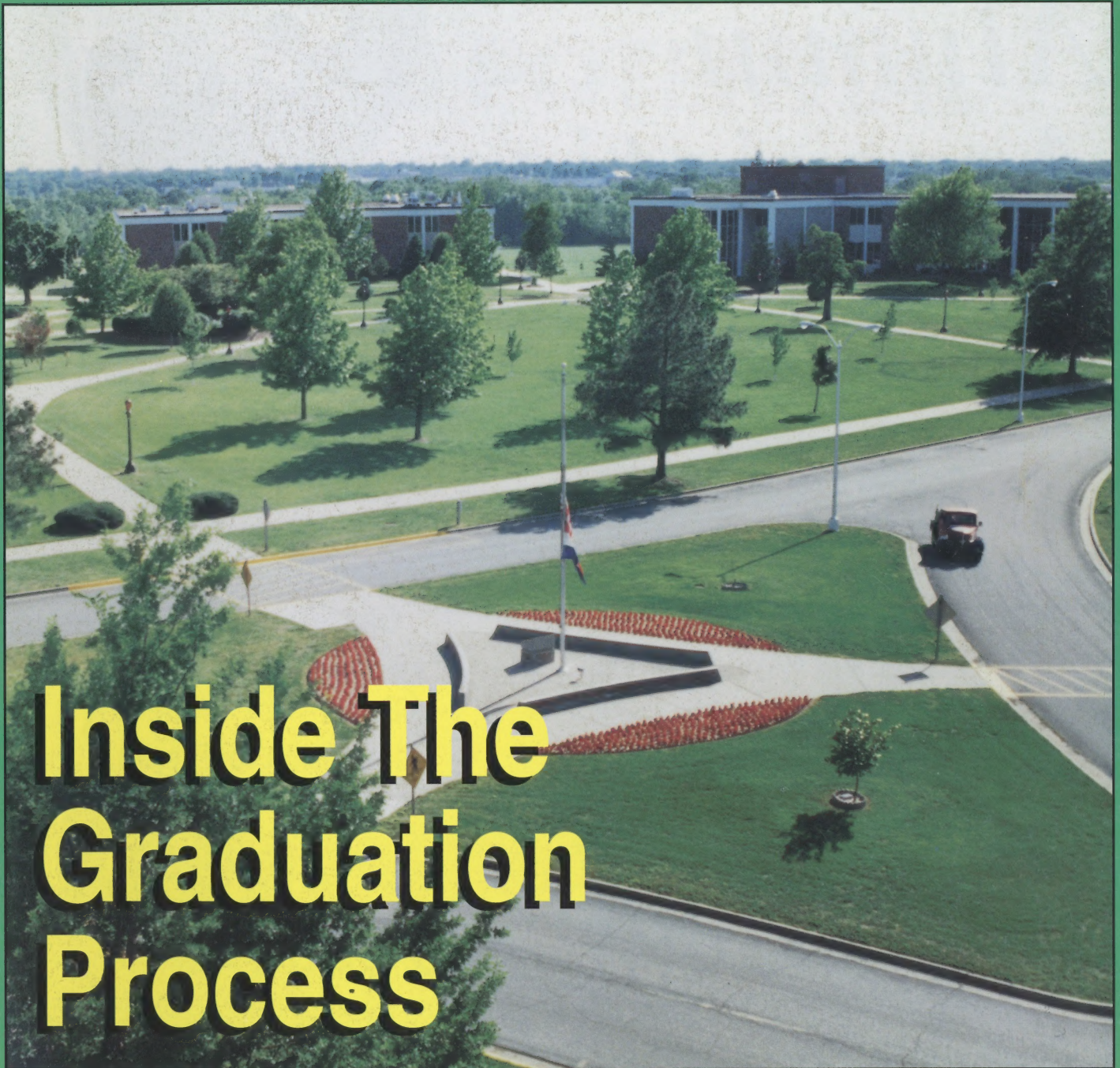


Crossroads:

THE MAGAZINE



Inside The Graduation Process

MISSOURI SOUTHERN STATE COLLEGE • JOPLIN

JUNE 1994

VOL.1, ISSUE 3

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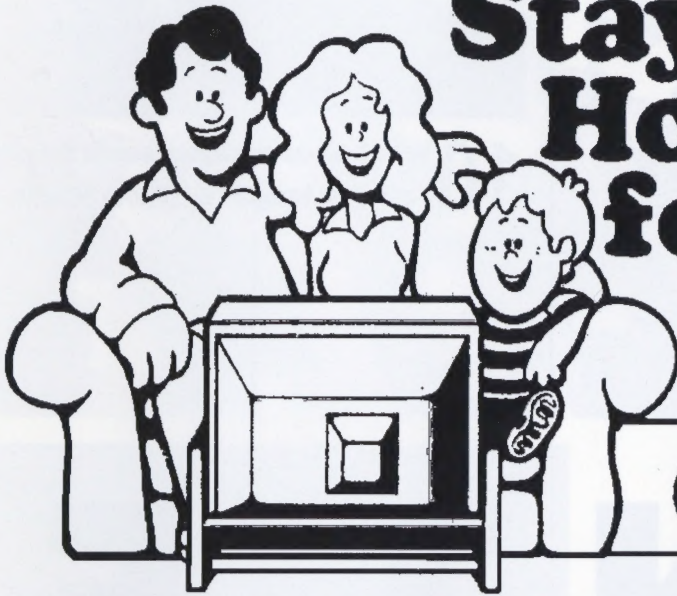
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JUNE 1994

VOLUME 1

ISSUE 3

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Crossroads
Magazine

Missouri
Southern
State
College

38

The year in
pictures

10 What does campus security do
all day long? By DEBRA SCHOW



PHOTO BY DEBRA SCHOW

C

O

N

T

E

COVER
STORY
20

The Graduation
Process
BY RONNA SPARKS

COVER

THE VIEW ATOP
WEBSTER HALL

BY
JOHN HACKER

NEWS
18

Some of the impact
events of 1994



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IN
MEMORY
14

Dr. Robert Smith
BY DR. DAVID TATE

16

Dr. Judy Conboy
BY DR. PATRICIA
KLUTHE

SURVEY 40

After 1 year,
what do you
think?

30

Freshman
Pictures



PHOTO BY P.J. GRAHAM

26

A look back at the spring
sports season

N T

S

5

**The Hammons Mentor
Program** BY JOHN HACKER



PHOTO BY JOHN HACKER

**CONTRIBUTOR'S
CORNER**

34

Adoption
BY JESSICA HYATT

35

2nd Career
BY CAROLYN BARKER

36

Campus Religion
BY SCOTT STETTES

37

Self-Defense
BY CELESTE TARRANT-
BIANCALANA

Crossroads: THE MAGAZINE

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**The Hammons Mentor Program...
...Succeeding Through Volunteers**

**Mentor Missy
Pefferman
assists
Kendria
Weathers
with an art
project
during
December of
last year.**



(Please turn to page 6)

Program provides 'safety net' for kids

By John Hacker

Of the Crossroads staff

Friendship and role models are at the heart of the Hammons Mentor Program, said program director Kelly Binns.

A cooperative effort by Missouri Southern and the Joplin R-VIII School District, the Hammons program is meant to intervene with certain middle school and junior high school students to provide tutoring service at the schools, and mentors from the College to spend time with them.

Binns said the tutoring provides an academic "safety net" under the students.

"The academics and after-school studies are like a bitter pill to them," Binns said. "We try to make it fun however. We are building on potential. We are saying that it may be the grades are not there right now but we want to help bring them up."

The mentors deal with the students' self-esteem.

"Mentors are role models," Binns said. "We want kids to see that you can set goals and achieve them. No one can show that better than a college student. They have to juggle work, study and recreation.

"The mentors have to be cheerleaders. They have to praise and encourage the students and help them deal with peer pressure. We've all been there before—we're still there—so we know what it is like."

Shirley Lynch, principal at South Middle School said the mentors are playing a vital role in the development of these students.

"Research supports the fact that anytime a student has the support and interest of other people, they will work better," Lynch said. "In the past it was always felt that the family had to play the role of that 'significant other' but research has not borne that out.

A cooperative effort by Southern and the Joplin R-VIII School District, the Hammons program is meant to intervene with certain middle school and junior high school students to provide tutoring service at the schools, and mentors from the College to spend time with them.

"Anyone can play a significant part—all they have to do is let [students] know they can be successful."

Lynch said dealing with these students takes special care and dedication.

"At-risk kids have a real

sensitive antenna," she said. "They know when you really care."

Jennifer Ebert is the student director of the Hammons program and has served as mentor for a 13-year-old Joplin girl for the past two years.

"We've gone to movies and to the mall and played video games," Ebert said. "We've also made cookies, and just the other day we took a long walk. I feel like I've adopted her—she introduces me as her big sister and doesn't bother to tell people we are not related by blood.

"She has helped me as much as I've helped her. I've seen her grow—she used to be shorter than me and now she's taller."

As student director, Ebert says she does "whatever Kelly tells me to do."

"I've helped organize a number of different activities," Ebert said. "I also serve as a go-between between mentors and the kids. After the tutoring sessions, I help bus the students home."

The Hammons kids themselves say the program has been a fun and useful experience.

Amber Brown is a sixth grader at North Middle School. She said she did not really know what the program was until her mother explained it.

"I really enjoy being with a mentor and learning about college," Amber said. "I also enjoy having another friend."

She said she has started thinking about what she wants to be when she gets out of college because of the program.

Please turn to
HAMMONS PROGRAM
Page 8



PHOTO COURTESY KELLY BINNS

Ashli Robinson, Kelly Binns and Amy Johnson.

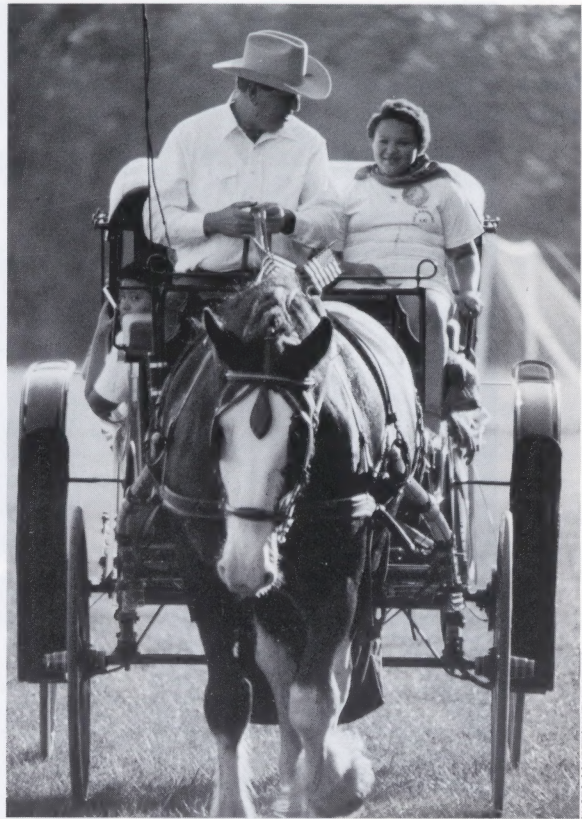


PHOTO COURTESY KELLY BINNS

Bob Binns takes Brandi Nolen on a Carriage ride.



PHOTO COURTESY KELLY BINNS

Candace Carroll (left) and Kay Funkhouser relax on a bridge during a Hammons outing to Range Line Golf last year.

(RIGHT)
Amber Penn
and Elfrieda
Taylor.



PHOTO COURTESY KELLY BINNS

Hammons Program FROM PAGE 6

"I've thought about being an archeologist, but I'm not sure," Amber said. "By the time I get into college I may have forgotten about that. Having the mentor helps you start thinking about college. They can tell you what [college] is all about."

Amber's mother, Denice Brown of Joplin, said Amber's mentor, Mercedes Armstrong is an excellent companion.

"[Mercedes] has been available for [Amber] all the time," Denice Brown said. "She is not around all the time but she has planned visits and keeps the relationship on a big sister-little sister level. She is not always on our doorstep—she has her own things, but she is always encouraging Amber."

Denice said the tutoring service is really good for those students who need it.

"I really like that aspect of the program," she said. "It's good that there is a service if the kids need it. It is also nice that they are all together in a group."

She said the parenting class, offered at the beginning of the program, was especially helpful to her as a single parent.

"It's hard with the stress of a job and the home on you," Denice said. "It never hurts to have handy new tips to help you keep up with things. The class gave me a lot of new parenting options. I also liked the materials in the class."



PHOTO COURTESY KELLY BINNS



(ABOVE)
Jeannie
Archie and
Amber
Brown.
(LEFT)
Amanda
Gillen and
Jessica
Gawino.

PHOTO COURTESY KELLY BINNS

They were very good and very realistic."

The students in the program were chosen in elementary school. Binns said financial need was one of the first criteria used to choose the Hammons kids.

"We sent evaluation forms to each of the elementary schools," she said. "Schools identify who they thought had the potential to succeed in high school and college. The schools could nominate as many students as they wanted. We received maybe 50-55 nominations."

Binns said 45 students were selected for the program in the fall of 1991. Thirty-five students remain. The rest were lost because they moved out of the Joplin district.

She said that more than 100 Southern students have served as mentors since the program was initiated. More than 30 have served as tutors.

Southern students who serve as mentors and tutors receive one hour of leadership, or Psychology 498 credit which the program pays for.

The children will receive varying amounts of financial help

from the Hammons program when they are ready to attend college.

"It's kind of hard to tell what the program will pay for because we

Binns said that more than 100 Southern students have served as mentors since the program was initiated. More than 30 have served as tutors.

don't know what federal help will be available," Binns said. "They will apply for whatever grants they qualify for and we will cover the

difference, which could include housing and other costs. The tutoring will also be available throughout their high school years and on into college."

Binns said she has looked into applying for grants to expand but for now the program is funded by proceeds of John Q. Hammons' original \$210,000 endowment.

"I would like to expand but we only have so much money," Binns said. "We want to make sure our money is where our mouth is. Maybe in the future we will get to the point where we can have kids in the program without giving them the scholarship, but we started this first group saying the money will be there for college."

Lynch said she would like to see the program expanded to include more children.

"I think it would be wonderful if we could broaden the program," she said. "Then we could really make an impact. Programs are not successful—it's the people. Programs provide the vehicle for people to have an impact and the people at Missouri Southern have been really great."

Richard Mansel, tutor, with Hammons students at Joplin Junior High.



PHOTO COURTESY KELLY BINS

Just what does campus security do all day long?

By Debra Schorr
Of the Crossroads staff

Whether it's writing tickets or just cruising around campus, what does Campus Security do all day long?

I spent a day with security officer Dallas Fortner, and chief of Security Bob Boyer. In that day, I learned the ins and outs of the job.

For those who don't know what patrolling consists of, let me help you. On patrols the security personnel look for unregistered Southern vehicles, vehicles parked in the wrong designated areas, help in motor assists such as jump starts, unlocking doors, and turning off headlights if left on once the motorist has left. On patrols officers are not allowed to change tires, do mechanical work, or other time consuming tasks.

On this particular patrol Fortner and I tried to shut off two vehicle's headlights, delivered "stuff" to the Police Academy, wrote three tickets for either wrongfully

PHOTO BY DEBRASCHORR

parking, not being registered as a Southern vehicle, or parking in a 10 minute zone for over 30 minutes, plus patrolled every lot at least twice an hour.

Security has a specific number for each parking lot located at Southern. This helps when identifying parking violations, motor assists, and vehicle accidents.

"Some of the time students can get away with some of these things," Fortner said. "But, not always. And when they don't we usually hear about it."

Fortner has been on the security staff at Southern for six years. In that time frame he has seen a lot security events at Southern, but nothing more

exciting than the Fall of 1992 when past president George Bush visited Southern.

"When Bush visited Southern all of the security personnel were called in to help," Fortner said. "It was by far the most exciting moment of my career here."

Even though having President Bush visit Southern was a big event for everyone at Southern, there are other events that require security's expertise also. Events such as car fender benders, burglaries, and thefts.

"Southern sees lots of fender benders," Boyer said. "Since we are such a large commuter college, it's very difficult security-wise to reduce

that number.

"But if a car was hit and enough damage was done, our officers fill out an insurance report for the students."

Aspects of security that can be reduced Boyer believes involve an active response from students.

"Problems of thefts, attacks, and burglaries can be reduced if students help us by notifying us of any suspicious behavior of others or noticing a new or unfamiliar vehicle in the parking lots," Boyer said.

"Reports like these would help piece together some crimes that

PLEASE TURN TO
SECURITY
PAGE 12



PHOTO BY JOHN HACKER

Security

FROM PAGE 11

might happen during the time the particular report was issued for."

When there is a break-in campus security questions as many people as possible to get all possible leads. If it is a felony, they immediately call the Joplin Police Department and turn the case over.

"Once it has gone over the total of \$200 it is out of our hands," Boyer said.

We are currently undergoing an increased lighting project. We are now leaving the lights on all night, plus putting lights in where they are needed. This project is hoped to be completed by next fall.

"We are not allowed by federal law to handle such cases."

To become one of Southern's finest it takes a lot of effort, knowledge, and determination. Some of the requirements for the current security personnel are to stay on top of reported campus and local crimes, check out every report made by a student, and take an investigative reporting course from the Police Academy. Many of the current security officers already have actual police experience

prior to coming to Southern. This makes the transition from police procedures to student opinions easier.

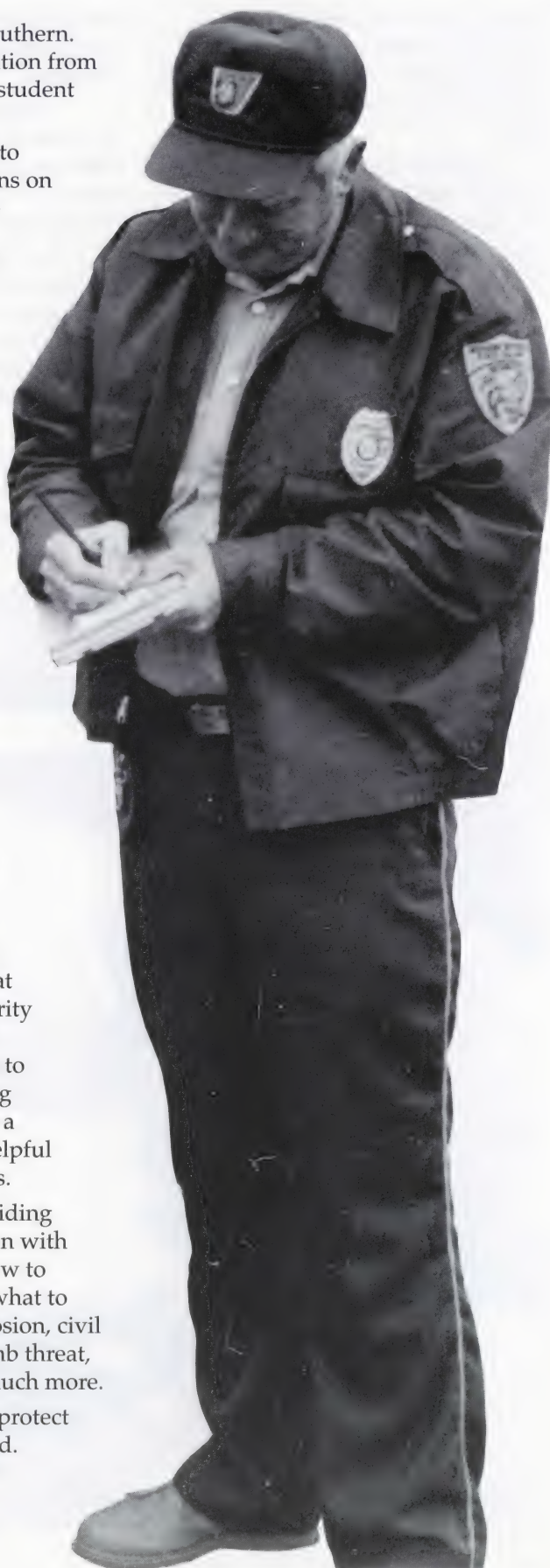
Security listens to many student opinions on what things need improvement around campus. One overall campus opinion is the lighting around campus. Students complain it is dark in some places, even if there are lights. Security is beginning to fix this problem.

"We are currently undergoing an increased lighting project," Boyer said. "We are now leaving the lights on all night, plus putting lights in where they are needed. This project is hoped to be completed by next fall."

Another project currently underway at Southern by the security is the distribution of literature on how not to become a victim along with how to describe a criminal and other helpful materials for students.

Security is providing an Emergency Bulletin with prepared plans on how to report emergencies, what to do in case of an explosion, civil disturbance, fire, bomb threat, sexual assault, and much more.

"It is our job to protect and serve," Boyer said. "We are lucky in the



fact that Southern is located outside of Joplin which eliminates some problems, but we are also fortunate to have trained, experienced officers to tackle the problems on campus."

Not only is security lucky to have such officers, but Southern's student population also benefits some and without some type of a security team Southern would be in a world of trouble.



Campus security guard Dallas Fortner demonstrates two duties of the security office: delivering the mail (above), and jump-starting a vehicle (left).

PHOTOS BY JOHN HACKER

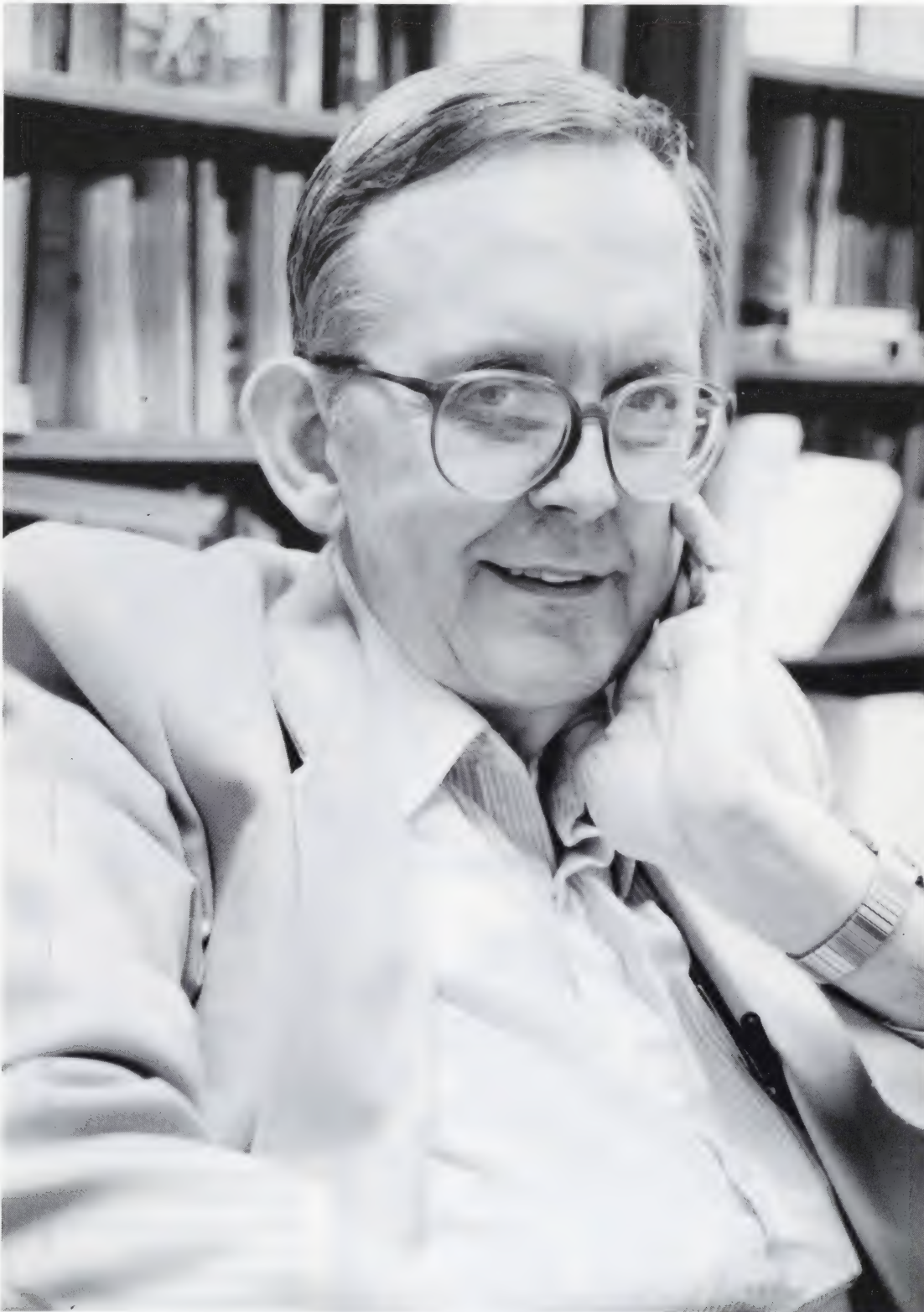


PHOTO BY LARRY MEACHAM

• **A Few Accomplishments**

- Professor of history at Missouri Southern since 1972
- Honorary member: Wyandotte Indian Tribe of Northeast Oklahoma
- Authored *Keeper of the Council Fires*, and *Oklahoma's Forgotten Indians*.
- Bachelor's degree: Northwest Missouri State University.
- Master's degree: Oklahoma State University.
- Doctorate degree: Oklahoma State University.

Born: Sept. 28, 1937
Died: Feb. 24, 1994

Dr. Smith remembered by colleague

By Dr. David Tate

Social Sciences
Department Head

One cannot begin to capture on paper the meanings that develop from a 20-year association with a colleague and valued friend. The lessons learned from his wisdom; the many stories told between us about matters great and small; the mutual respect that we shared; the humor that was so much a part of his days, even while suffering, at times, great physical pain. There is much that could be written. I will try to do his legacy honor, however, with the following few words. Maybe in the trying, there is the tribute.

I first met Bob Smith in the Autumn of 1974, when I hired on at Missouri Southern as an instructor in the Social Sciences department. The following year, Bob was appointed Social Sciences department head, a position he held for six years. During those years, Bob managed to administer, teach, and continue his very impressive scholarly activity. In the spring of 1978, he approached me about writing an article for a publication he was editing on *Oklahoma's Forgotten Indians*.

I remember asking him why he wanted me to do the research and the writing. He said simply, "Because I trust your scholarship and your pride in wanting to do a good job." He gave me encouragement and guidance without ever trying to direct the content of my writing. I knew I had to come through. I didn't want to embarrass myself or disappoint him, for his scholarship had always been first rate. I believe that's called

teaching by example.

I was looking over a department copy of his vita a short time ago and was reminded again just how much energy this man had invested over the years in researching and writing about history. Page after page listing articles in national and regional journals; dozens of articles and book

**Teachers like
Bob Smith
cannot be
replaced in the
deepest sense.
We can only
hope that
someone can
begin the journey
that he so
successfully and
richly traveled for
over 22 years at
this college**

reviews, and editorial assistance on numerous journal articles and textbooks. To the very end, his passion for history kept the fire burning and the scholarship flowing. Scholarship and education however, are not necessarily connected, nor is there a necessary link between information and learning.

The ultimate criteria for judging quality education is in the classroom. It is the dynamics of interaction between the teacher and his or her students that determines quality and quantity of learning. Bob simply loved history, and it was this love that his many students over the years came to appreciate and grow from.

Drawing on his years of experience, he formed a delightful mix of historical fact and personal insight into the lives of historical figures and the times in which they lived.

And always there was his humor which formed a constant backdrop for his many examples and stories. Bob often said that "history isn't just about what happened, it's about who we are." Bob was master at connecting information with learning. He never gave up his desire to preserve the past in the minds of his students.

Teachers like Bob Smith cannot be replaced in the deepest sense. We can only hope that someone can begin the journey that he so successfully and richly traveled for over 22 years at this college.

The last time I spoke with Bob, one late afternoon in his office, we were bantering about a variety of historical topics including the last time the Chicago Cubs won a pennant. Bob was like that—always engaging listeners in matters great and small. I'm glad that I had the opportunity to be one of his listeners.

Missouri Southern is a better place because Bob Smith passed our way.



PHOTO BY LARRY MEACHAM

• **A Few Accomplishments**

- Began teaching at Missouri Southern in 1969.
- Social Sciences department head from 1981 to 1988.
- Director, Helen S. Boylan Symposium at Southern.
- Screening committee for the academic vice presidential position.
- Honored with a proclamation for outstanding achievements in higher education.
- 1993 Outstanding Teacher Award at Southern.
- Bachelor's degree: Pittsburg State University
- Master's degree: Pittsburg State University
- Doctorate degree Kansas University

Born: Nov. 26, 1940
Died: April 5, 1994

Conboy had transcendent passion

By Dr. Patricia Kluthe
Assistant Director of
the Honors Program

Throughout the turbulent sixties, the revolutionary seventies, the precarious eighties, and into the uncertain nineties Professor Conboy brought the world into the minds of the students. Her passion for knowledge and the resultant thinking about social problems was not bound by time. Her teaching transcended time. In such courses as "Minority Groups and Race Relations", "Collective Behavior", "Sex and Gender Roles", "Social Change", and "Group Dynamics" she presented social theories and ideas, and provoked the students to draw conclusions. Often the rich tapestry of her experiences provided the background for the students to analyze their own fabric of experiences.

Judith Lee Conboy was the epitome of professorship, driven by a search for knowledge and the ever-present mandate for social change that a distraught world presents. In the courses she led she examined age-old questions, and encouraged students to consider their solution to ever-pressing problems. Simply, she advised, "Think it out, run it up the flagpole; see if it flies." And in her classroom banners were ever waving. Her passion for people and their ideas transcended political bias and partisanship.

Whether it was Kent State, the Detroit riots, Vietnam, Watergate, or the Berlin Wall, Dr. Conboy easily and smoothly fit the pieces of current affairs into the puzzle of sociology and

social change. The course of study was way beyond "text-books and tests" according to one devoted student. "In her courses we were given ways of looking at life." Although the issues of the day were an important part of the learning, the concentration was not on the times but the behavior of people. Another student from the past comments "The influence she had on us as a professor continues on—when you confront truth, you don't forget."

Professor Conboy's idealism transcended disciplines and ever egocentric protection of those ideas.

Professor Conboy's idealism transcended disciplines and even egocentric protection of those ideas. During the sixties claiming to be a "feminist" was a risk, since the media painted a very narrow picture of the principles which defined the movement. During the seventies the picture did not broaden and even narrowed somewhat. In the eighties the radical, moderate, and conservative edges began to see the common ground, and found themselves huddled together. Through it all Dr. Conboy rode the tide, and held on to what she knew to be the truth. Her passion transcended pressure.

Judith Lee Conboy, the professor, is remembered here and that is only one small dimension of who she was to others. She was a devoted and proud mother, a loving sister, a compassionate friend, an encouraging colleague, a savvy politician, an adroit administrator, a gifted and sensitive writer, a patron of the arts, and a humanitarian. Her professional, and always personal, affiliations included the Jasper County Law Review Committee, Board of Directors for the Scott Greening Treatment Facility for Adolescents with alcohol and substance abuse problems, American Association of University Women, the Domestic Violence Commission of Southwest Missouri, past Board member and instructor of Volunteer Training Program for Lafayette House, past president of Missouri Society for Sociology and Anthropology, and Director of the Helen S. Boylan Symposium on Women in Government. She was awarded Outstanding Young Woman of Joplin in 1974, received the "Women Helping Women Award" from the Soroptomists of Joplin in 1983, and was recognized as Missouri Southern's Outstanding Teacher in 1993, which then earned her state recognition.

In the classroom, in the public forum, on the Boards, in the communities, in the hallways, her ever-pervasive and transcendent passion for knowledge was made memorable and remarkable by a wise wit, a keen humor, and dismissive laughter which always surrounded her and her teaching, and reassured those of us who learned from her.

Bitterbaum to assume helm July 1

(MARCH 25)—Missouri Southern went all the way to North Carolina to find its new Vice President for Academic Affairs, the selectee was Dr. Erik J. Bitterbaum.

Bitterbaum comes to Southern from Methodist College in Fayetteville, N.C., where he held the same position. He was selected after a three-month national search from a field of 176 candidates. He will assume his duties at Southern July 1.

Bitterbaum holds bachelor's and master's degrees in biology from

Occidental College and his doctorate in zoology from the University of Florida-Gainesville. Prior to becoming academic vice president at Methodist College, Bitterbaum was a faculty member at the University of Florida, and a faculty Assistant Provost for Lifelong Learning and Associate Provost at Nebraska Wesleyan University.

Bitterbaum has extensive experience in curriculum development, international education, and the liberal arts aspects of career

education.

"We are very pleased with this appointment," Southern president Julio Leon said in announcing the appointment. "Dr. Bitterbaum's background and experience will be of great help to Missouri Southern as we face the challenges of the 21st century and the Information Age.

"We are looking forward to his leadership and contribution."

The appointment was confirmed by the Southern Board of Regents March 25.

Webster funding in doubt

(MAY 4)—What once seemed like a dead lock cinch, now appears to be a major question mark.

A conference committee on May 4 cut \$500,000 out of a \$2.5 million dollar appropriation to cover the final payment on the Webster Communications and Social Science Building.

Additionally, the conferees

made the remaining \$2 million only conditional, pending the approval of a \$210 million bond issue scheduled for a November vote.

The funding had been recommended by Gov. Mel Carnahan, and the state House of Representatives had concurred, sending it to the Senate.

Foundation escapes \$15,000 bullet

(APRIL 19)—The Missouri Southern Foundation dodged a \$15,000 bullet when a jury decided in its favor in a two-year-old lawsuit regarding the bulldozing land north of the College.

The suit, filed in July 1992 by Michael and Nancy Hailey, of Joplin, alleged that crews hired by the Foundation bulldozed trees and brush on the Foundation's 13-acre site and heaped them into huge piles which were then burned, creating a smoky eyesore.

The Haileys also alleged that crews trespassed on their property and removed trees, creating a flooding problem that lowered the property's value by approximately \$15,000.

The suit, originally was for \$140,000, but two of the three original counts were dropped when the trial began April 18.

The Foundation received the property as a gift in December 1982.

Hygiene program receives gift

(JAN. 22)—A large donation by Dr. Donald Crockett, former owner of Crockett Oil Co., has created a number of possibilities for Missouri Southern's dental hygiene program.

Crockett's donation of \$211,000 in stocks and securities, prompted the Board of Regents to name the dental hygiene clinic after him.

Crockett, a Joplin dentist since 1941, is working part-time with Dr. Charles McGinty.

After attending pre-dental classes at the former Ozark Wesleyan College in Carthage, he graduated from the University of Missouri-Kansas City School of Dentistry.

The donation of funds by Crockett did not come as a complete surprise to the dental program, as he played a role in the creation of the program in 1974. He has been a member of the Missouri Southern Foundation board of directors since 1982.

Hygiene program wishes include an Extra Oral Radiologic Device X-ray machine that will photograph the entire mouth. Other wants include buying more teaching materials such as educational slides, and dexters.

Part of the funds will also be set aside as scholarships for hygiene students.

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begin
thinking
about
it.**



PHOTO BY LARRY MEACHAM

THE GRADUATION PROCESS

An in-depth look from start to finish

By Ronna Sparks
Of the Crossroads staff

Pomp and Circumstance may seem to be the beginning of graduation to the casual observer, but the graduation process for the cap-and-gown-clad individuals began the semester before they completed the requirements.

The graduating seniors began their journey through Missouri Southern's final process at "Career Planning, and Placement," headed by Nancy Loomer. The student is given an Inactive Credential Form requiring general information and future plans. The information given is then filed to be placed in an annual report compiled by CP&P.

At CP&P, the student is presented with the option of having an active file with the office. This option was previously required of all graduating seniors. It entailed extensive paperwork and letters of recommendation.

"There are two benefits of having an active file," Loomer said. "The student is eligible to participate in on campus interviews, and it allows the student to be included in resume referrals."

Senior sociology major Stephanie Fisher encountered a problem with completing the requirements of an active file.

"My most frustrating experience was not the paperwork I had to fill out myself, but that I had to rely on the faculty members," she said. "And eventually I had to send them 'thank you cards' in hope that it would remind them of their obliga-

tions to return my references."

The students next step is to return the inactive credential credit form to CP&P. Once that step is completed, they receive a release

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rely on the
faculty members.**

form that they take to the Registrar's Office, also located in Hearnes Hall. The student is then given two forms: an application for degree candidacy and a graduation check form.

The application for degree candidacy is simply to supply information for the diploma and apply for permission to graduate. The graduation check form is essentially to inform the students and their adviser of the credits they must complete in their last semester to graduate.

A portion of the forms must be filled out by the student, then taken to the student's adviser. The adviser tallies the general education credits and informs the students of the classes to be taken during the last

Please turn to
GRADUATION
Page 22



PHOTO BY LARRY MEACHAM

Graduation

FROM PAGE 21

semester in order to graduate. The forms are then taken to the dean or head of the department to be checked. The student then returns the forms to the Registrar's office.

"I was very impressed with the efficiency of my department head, Dr. (John) Messick, in informing me of the classes I needed for graduation," said Mike Linn, senior Biology major.

Some were not as pleased with the handling of the graduation requirements.

"I think [advisers] should know what (courses) you need," said Penny McGraw, senior Business Administration major. "Every semester when you enroll, they have your track record: grades, credits, and everything.

"I think the process is just repetition and red tape."

Once the forms are returned to the Registrar's Office, the students portion of the paperwork is complete. The vice president's office sends information to the students telling them whether they have fulfilled their requirements up to that point.

After commencement, the files are turned in, and Dr. Mouser com-

pares the final transcript to the specified graduation requirements for that student's field. If a student fails to complete a class during their last semester, they are sent a letter stating the class needed still to complete the degree. If the student completes the required courses, achieves the required Grade Point Average, and has the correct number of hours, the student is sent a diploma.

The information is placed on the student's transcript which is micro-filmed and the excess papers destroyed so that they cannot be recognized. Copies of the microfilm are kept in the Registrar's office and a local bank.

Opinions about the graduation process are varied.

"The ultimate goal of taking classes is a college degree," Fisher

said. "They put things off until the last year to decide if the credits you have accumulated, qualify you for graduation after you have been here four or five years."

Linn thinks that Southern is justified for leaving the majority of the process up to the individual students.

"I think it would have been too much work for Career Planning, and Placement and the Registrar," he said. "The added paperwork for both offices would be overwhelming and lead to more possible mistakes."

Others, like senior communications major Tim Baker had mixed feelings.

Please turn to
PROCESS
Page24

I think it would have been too much work for CP&P and the Registrar. The added paperwork for both offices would be overwhelming ...



College President Julio Leon addresses the new graduates.

PHOTO BY LARRY MEACHAM



PHOTO BY LARRY MEACHAM



PHOTO BY LARRY MEACHAM

Process

FROM PAGE 22

"An adviser has numerous students to contend with, and if they were to handle anything else, nothing would get done. I feel it was pointless to a degree," he said. "It's good that they have a system, but I feel a better solution would be having a step-by-step form so that the students would know what is required of them."

Both Fisher and McGraw felt the communication between graduates and staff left much to be desired.

"You spend so much money on an education to graduate, but they can't send you a packet to tell when these things are due," Fisher said. "You must instead spend your time

**When I first
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be.**

searching bulletin boards through overseas traveling ads and credit card applications to find the important graduation information."

McGraw also thought the notification was lacking.

"There wasn't enough notification for December graduates," she



PHOTO COURTESY PUBLIC INFORMATION, MISSOURI SOUTHERN

said. "The May and July posters were very visible, but I couldn't find any that pertained to December graduates causing me and many of my fellow classmates to almost miss the

deadline."

Despite all the problems, Linn said it just wasn't that bad.

"When I first heard about the graduation process, I dreaded having

to go through it," he said. "There's enough for graduating seniors to do, much less be forced to run around campus obtaining signatures, but it proved to be much less of a hassle than I thought it would be."

Dear Graduate Celebrants for 1994:

April 8, 1994

Congratulations on meeting the criteria for joining in the Missouri Southern Commencement ceremony this spring. Your ceremony, which is one of two, will be held in **Taylor Auditorium on May 21, 1994 at 12 noon**. The reason for holding the ceremony inside is to provide greater comfort to the graduates and their families. The reason for two ceremonies is to provide more seating for families and friends.

Admission for family and friends including children, except for babies in arms, is by ticket only. Enclosed are four color coded tickets which provide admission only to the 12 noon ceremony. **If you do not need all four, please return the excess to us by mail or by leaving them in the Academic Affairs Office located in Hearnes Hall Room 200 prior to Monday, May 16.** If you need more than four tickets, we will distribute an additional two tickets per graduate until all the returned tickets are gone (first come first served per graduate student ID). Distribution of tickets will be Thursday, May 19, from 4:00-6:00 p.m. outside of Room 200 Hearnes Hall. Live, closed circuit television of the ceremony will be available in Webster Hall Auditorium and the Young Gymnasium.

May I remind you that to receive your diploma all requirements must be completed. (Summer graduates must complete their requirements by July). For example, all "Incompletes" must be made up, all correspondence courses must be finished, and the correspondence transcript with the grades must be in the Registrar's possession. All textbooks must be returned, fines cleared and all financial obligations settled with the Business Office prior to the last day of the semester. Diplomas will not be issued if all of the above are not properly completed. Don't forget! December 1993 and July 1994 graduates will participate in the May 1994 Commencement Exercises.

The graduation announcements are available now at the College Bookstore. The announcements are ten per package at a cost of \$7.50. Please be certain that the inserts in the announcements show the correct time for your ceremony. Caps and gowns can be picked up April 18 - May 6 at the Bookstore in Billingsly Student Center. The Registrar's Office will be distributing caps and gowns from May 10 - 20.

Please remember that all graduates are to participate in the graduation exercises unless excused by the Vice President for Academic Affairs. I sincerely hope each of you will successfully complete the current semester and begin with confidence the career of your choice.

Sincerely,

Ray A. Malzahn
Interim Vice President for Academic Affairs

This letter was sent to all prospective graduates on April 8. It outlines requirements and procedures for graduation.

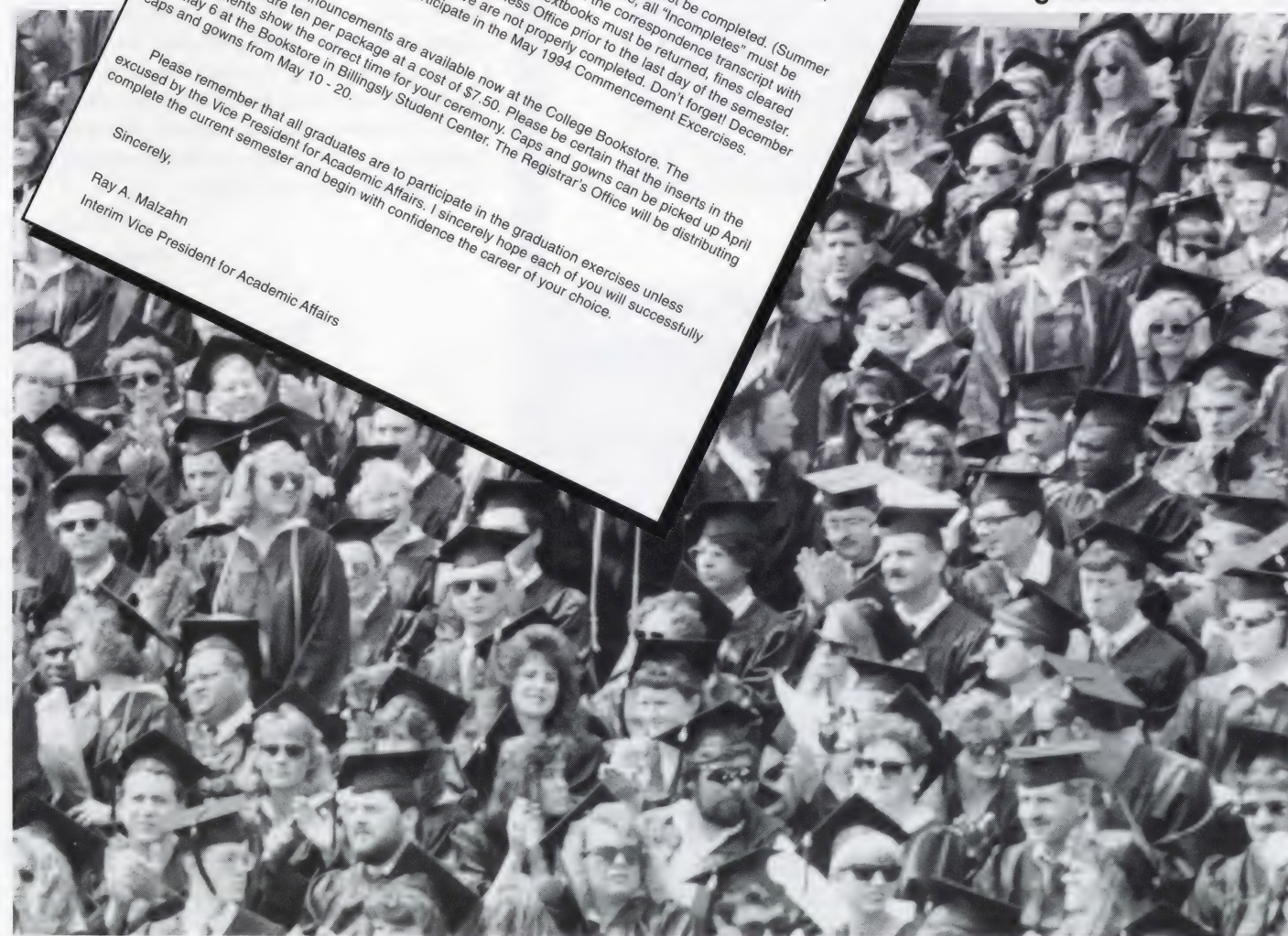




PHOTO BY T. ROE BROWN

No. 1 Singles: Senior Jill Fisher

Tennis finishes 5th in MIAA

The tennis Lady Lions saw their season come to an end with a fifth-place finish at the MIAA Conference Championships April 28-30 in St. Joseph, Mo.

The Lady Lions tallied 14 points in the nine-team event. That total put them behind Northwest Missouri State University (72), Northeast Missouri State University (64), Emporia State University (24), and Washburn University (23), and ahead of Lincoln, Missouri Western, Southwest Baptist, and Missouri-St. Louis.

The Lady Lions came away

with three place winners as Emily Blackwell finished third at No. 2 singles, while Ali Potter was third at No. 3 singles. The team of Potter and Holly Hammett also ended up in third place in the No. 2 doubles competition.

Head coach Georgina Bodine announced at season's end that all seven members of the squad will earn varsity letters this season. In addition to Blackwell, Hammett, and Potter, the list includes Jill Fisher, Stefanie Duncan, Stacy Jackson, and Amy Lawson.

Baseball overachieves in 1994

The baseball Lions had their run at a third MIAA title in four years fall a bit short with a third-place finish at the conference tournament April 29-May 1 at Central Missouri State in Warrensburg.

The Lions, who entered the "Final Four" portion of the tourney as the No. 2 seed after winning the league's South Division and posting a 2-0 first-round mini-series sweep of Northeast Missouri State on April 23.

Southern began the double-elimination play with an 8-7 victory over third-seeded Pittsburg State. After rain had forced April 30's games to be postponed until May 1, Southern was knocked out of the event with an 8-3 loss to fourth-seeded Missouri-St. Louis and an 11-0 setback at the hands of the top-seeded and host Mules.

Central Missouri State went on to win the tournament beating UMSL in a double header to earn



the automatic bid to the NCAA tourney.

Twenty-eight squad members will earn varsity letters for the 1994 campaign. The list includes pitchers Chad Baker, Matt Cook, Kirk Harryman, Bart Harvey, Andy Hill, Robert Hixon, Rick Lapka, Philip Lewis, Tracy Minks, Rob Sapko, Eric Smith, and Scott Wright, catchers Bryce Darnell, Gabe Harpole, and Matt Nelson, first basemen Chris Gold and Clark Wagner, second basemen Zack Harpole and Dom Schullo, third basemen Steve Johnson and Ryan Lauderdale, shortstops Anthony Ramirez and Dan Reid, and outfielders Jason Ansley, Jason Dyer, Chris Putnam, Wayne Wentte, and Mike Zirngibl.

Wagner and Zirngibl are four-year lettermen.

BASEBALL (31-17) THE Final SCORE

0 Oklahoma	14	8 Lincoln	5
3 Oklahoma St.	10	8 Neb.-Omaha	7
5 Oral Roberts	6 (10)	12 Minn.-Morris	10
6 Oklahoma St.	7	19 Minn.-Morris	10
1 Oklahoma	9	13 Neb.-Omaha	0
12 Oral Roberts	16	6 Mo. Western	5
10 Neb.-Kearney	5	17 Pittsburg St.	6
7 Neb.-Kearney	2	13 Mo.-Rolla	1
3 Arkansas	10	17 Mo.-Rolla	0
3 Wayne St.	0	4 Mo.-Rolla	2
16 Wayne St.	1	11 Mo.-Rolla	2
22 Huron U.	6	4 SIU-E'ville	3
0 Dallas Baptist	3	7 SIU-E'ville	3
6 Dallas Baptist	7	7 Mo.-St. Louis	8
2 East Central	7	8 SW Baptist	4
4 Dallas Baptist	6	9 SW Baptist	2
3 Washburn	5	0 SW Baptist	10
6 Washburn	5	4 SW Baptist	5
14 Morningside	3	4 NE Mo. St.	0
19 Teikyo Westmar	3	9 NE Mo. St.	1
15 Lincoln	4	8 Pittsburg St.	7
8 Lincoln	0	3 Mo.-St. Louis	8
7 Morningside	5	0 Cen. Mo. St.	11
21 Lincoln	9		



PHOTO BY JOHN HACKER

Senior centerfielder Mike Zirngibl attempts to lay down a bunt in a contest at Joe Becker Stadium this year. Zirngibl and first baseman Clark Wagner were the only two four-year lettermen on this year's squad.



Senior pitcher Angie Hadley led the Lady Lions in wins (15), complete games (16), shutouts (7), and strikeouts (49) this season

PHOTO BY CHAD HAYWORTH

SOFTBALL (42-16) THE Final SCORE

1 S. Dakota St.	0	0 Southwest Baptist	1
4 Washburn	0	1 Pittsburg St.	3
12 N. Dakota St.	1	4 Missouri Western	0
4 St. Cloud St.	1	1 SIU-E'ville	2
2 Neb.-Kearney	1	7 Mo.-Rolla	2
7 Pittsburg St.	3	5 Mo.-St. Louis	1
4 Cen. Oklahoma	2	7 Lincoln	0
2 Okla. City U.	5	4 Lincoln	0
5 Columbia	6	4 Missouri Western	3
2 Columbia	0	2 Emporia St.	1
1 Wm. Woods	4	4 South Dakota	3
8 Defiance	0	5 Quincy U.	1
6 Anderson	4	2 Oklahoma City U.	1
0 Columbia	2	2 Northeastern St.	0
3 N. Alabama	0	3 Northeastern St.	4
1 Pacific Lutheran	0	9 Missouri Western	2
8 Milligan	2	8 Northwest Mo. St.	0
7 Puget Sound	3	6 Northeast Mo. St.	0
9 W. Florida	11	3 Emporia St.	5
10 Milligan	7	0 Central Mo. St.	1
4 Cen. Mo. St.	2	4 Washburn	0
7 Cen. Mo. St.	3	6 Lincoln	3
7 SW Mo. St.	1	8 Pittsburg State	0
1 SW Mo. St.	0	2 Central Mo. St.	4
6 Luther Coll.	2	0 Pittsburg State	3
11 U of Mary	5	3 Pittsburg State	1
10 SIU-E'ville	2	0 Central Mo. St.	2
9 Morningside	1	5 Pittsburg St.	2
0 Central Coll.	1	1 Central Mo. St.	10

Softball 2nd at NCAA Central Regional

The softball Lady Lions improved on last year's third place regional finish beating Pittsburg State twice to capture second place in the NCAA Division II Central Regional tournament.

The Lady Lions finished the regional 2-2, beating Pitt State twice, and falling twice to regional champ Central Missouri State.

One week earlier, the Lady Lions had their hopes of winning their fourth MIAA title in five years dashed with a third-place finish in the MIAA conference tournament.

The fourth-seeded Lady Lions

began the 12 team, double-elimination event with a 6-3 victory over 12th seeded Lincoln University. They came back the next day to knock off top-seeded Pittsburg State 8-0 in the winner's bracket semifinals, but fell 4-2 to Central Missouri State in the winner's final.

Southern was then eliminated with a 3-0 loss to Pittsburg State. Central Missouri State, hosting the event, won the tournament with a victory over Pittsburg State.

The Lady Lions, finished 42-16 and 14th in the final NCAA Division II

softball poll.

Southern placed nine players on the MIAA All-Conference Team: pitcher Angie Hadley and outfielder Cathy Mozingo were first team selections, while outfielders Natasha Fluke and Melissa Grider, first baseman Shally Lundien, and second baseman Cindy Murguia were second-team picks. Pitcher Andrea Clarke, catcher Shauna Seward, and third baseman Shari Heider all earned honorable-mention all-league honors.

Lion linksters gain 9th at MIAA tourney

The Lion golf squad ended its season with a ninth-place showing at the MIAA Championships April 25-26. The 54-hole event was played on the Oaks Course at Marriott's Tan-Tar-A Resort and Golf Club in Osage Beach.

The Lions posted a 988 score to finish behind Central Missouri State University (923), Missouri-St. Louis

(924), Southwest Baptist, Pittsburg State, Lincoln, Northeast Mo. St., Washburn, and Missouri Western. Mo-Rolla finished 10th.

Individually, Southern was led by freshman Chris Mitchell, who shot a score of 241, followed by Heath Holt at 246, Kevin Walker with 251, Trent Stiles with 256, and Jack Pew with a

257.

First-year head coach Larry Clay announced this week that three members of his squad: Holt, Mitchell, and Stiles, will earn varsity letters for the 1994 campaign. Stiles won his fourth letter, while Holt received his second and Mitchell earned his first.

Tracking success

The track and field Lions and Lady Lions turned in solid performances at the MIAA Outdoor Championships April 28-30 at Southern's Fred G. Hughes Stadium. The Lions were third in the men's division with 107 points, representing their best finish and highest point total since they began competing in the conference, while the Lady Lions were fifth in the women's division with 48 points.

The Lady Lions were led by Tongula (Givens) Walker, who was the meet's high-point scorer for the second year in a row. She compiled 30.25 points with firsts in the 200 meter dash, long jump, and triple jump, and Southern's sixth place 400 meter relay team.

Rounding out the scoring was Mary Adamson with 13.25 points, and Kim Dinan and Tonya Graham with 2.25 points each.

Meanwhile, the Lions were paced by Jason Ramsey with 34.5 points. He won the decathlon, the 110 meter high hurdles, and the 400 meter intermediate hurdles, placed fifth in the pole vault and was a member of Southern's first-place 1,600 meter relay team.

Other point scorers were: Paul Baker, Albert Bland, Jason Riddle, Scott Tarnowiecky, Higinio Covarrubias, Matt Houck, Aaron Zerbonia, Jamie Nofsinger, Marcus Burns, and Josh Rogers.

Ramsey, Walker, Riddle, and Adamson also qualified for nationals.



PHOTO BY P.J. GRAHAM

Sophomore Jason Ramsey won the decathlon at the MIAA meet.

Smith chases NFL dream

Southern wide receiver Rod Smith signed a college free-agent contract with the Denver Broncos of the National Football League on May 2.

Terms of his contract were undisclosed. Smith was in Denver to sign a contract and attend an orientation session for rookies with the Bronco coaching staff. He is not due to report again to the club until pre-season training camp begins on July 17.

The 6-2, 180-pound Texarkana, Ark., product was a two-time Associated Press and *Football Gazette* All-American for the Lions. He was also named to the MIAA all-conference team three times, served as a squad co-

captain for three seasons, was team MVP twice, and was MIAA Offensive Player of the Year, as well as a member of Southern's Silver Anniversary Football Team that was selected in 1992.

Off the field, Smith was named one of Southern's Outstanding Graduates for 1994. He graduated in December with a trio of degrees: economics and finance, general business, and marketing and management.

While at Southern, Smith served as a student senator and as treasurer of Kappa Alpha Psi social fraternity. He is active in the Hammons Program, as well as the Joplin Boys and Girls Club and Special Olympics.



FRESHMAN PICTURES

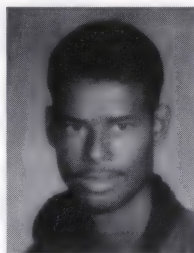
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David Armstrong

Angela Atten

Jill Bever

Raesha Binning



Shayla Bishop

Cara Borland

Kathy Brandon-Victory

Lori Broaddus

Sarah Broyles



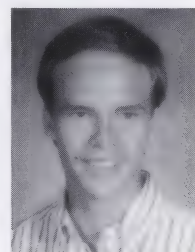
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Jennifer Campbell

Yonnie Camillo

Joyce Coffey

Josiah Covert



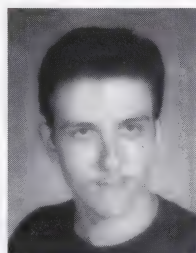
Gary Crites

April Davidson

Becky Dawson

Tammy Dickson

Melissa Dukes



Lynnie Edwards

John Elledge

Mindy Emmert

Jenny Ertel

Kim Jones



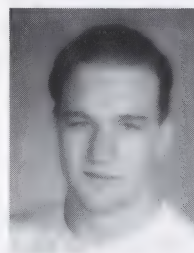
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Tammy Galbert

Ryan Gist

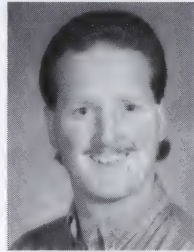
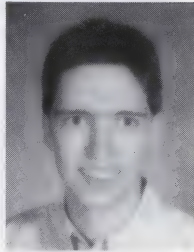
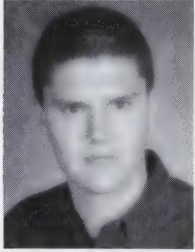
Valerie Gordon



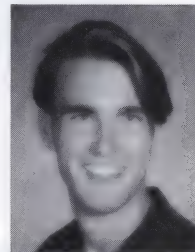
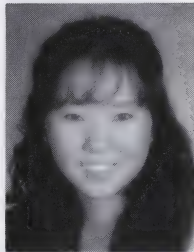
FRESHMAN PICTURES



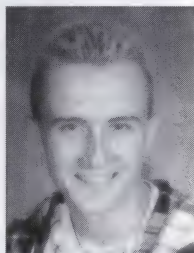
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Amy Hall
Marinda Harpole
Shannon Hauck
Amanda Haynes



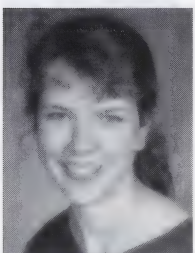
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Chuck Henderson
Kandra Hildebrand
Ethan Hobson
Leigh Hughes



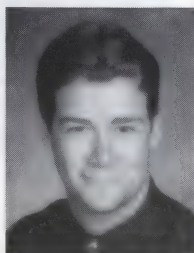
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Deanna Kilpatrick
Bryan Lawler



Melinda LaBanon
Jeremy Leath
Kara Lendenham
Brenda Lockard
Brandi Manning



Joanie Martin
Kelly Mateljan
Ashlie Matthews
Dorine McMakin
Debra Meyer



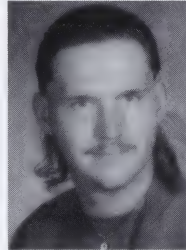
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Stephanie Mooney
Amela Moore

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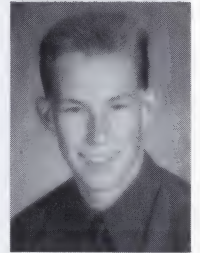
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Jamie Nelson
Victoria Nelson
Raélene Nickols
Michelle Nothnagel



C.J. Novak
Lori Page
Tucker Painter
Gayela Potter
Heather Reeves



Amy Reie
Tara Rowe
Chris Rupar
Christina Saferite
Jerry Schultz



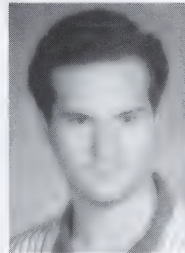
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Daniel Scott
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Jennifer Singleton



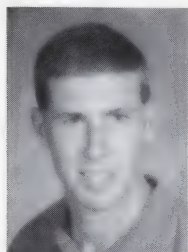
Shawna Skinner
Sarah Smith
Michelle Spalding
Kim Stahlman
Laura Strickland



Charity Strett
Patrick Taimburino
Tracy Tate
Tracie Terrill
Susan Thomas



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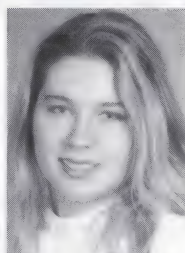
Ian Throckmorton

Cean Trewin

Nichole Verwys

Allena Volskay

Erica Weik



Dana Wenrich

LeAna Williams

Autumn Willoughby

Stacy Winkler

Clint Wirth



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Accepting An Adoption

By Jessica Hyatt
Crossroads contributor

If certain national organizations had their way, people like me would not exist.

According to a recent *Newsweek* (March 21, 1994), some feminist and social-welfare groups have started a push to eliminate adoptions.

They claim that adoption is an attempt by pro-life people to exploit women and deny their choice. They claim that, because many foster children are African-American, many adoption will be trans-racial these children would be denied exposure to their own culture. They claim that adoptees suffer undo emotional harm from not knowing their birth parents, and birth parents suffer from not knowing their children.

I can not deny the validity of their claims. I have no research, or statistics to prove them wrong. I can show only the evidence of my own life as an adoptee.

I was adopted by my grandparents when I was nine months old. I did not find out that I was adopted until I was fifteen. And while it might have been better to grow up knowing about it, I do not believe that adoption was the wrong choice for my family.

I was adopted by rela-

tives, therefore I was not shuttled from one foster home to the next before finding a permanent home. I also did not have to search for my biological mother. She was able to watch me grow up, even though she was not able to raise me.

This makes me more fortunate than the adoptees who must search

I was adopted by my grandparents when I was nine months old. I did not find out that I was adopted until I was fifteen.

for their heredity, but even with its problems, I believe adoption works.

My adoptive father grew up in foster homes, and he said that it influenced his decision to adopt. Although he was grateful for the care he received in the foster homes, he never felt he had a family to which he could belong. He always felt like a guest in their homes.

I, however, was raised as a member of a family, with all of the sibling rivalries, bedtime stories, and Thanksgiving dinners that are a part of family life. I never felt different or



PHOTOS COURTESY JESSICA HYATT



(Above) Jessica's birth mother Wendy Gibson and half-sister Heather Lengefeld. (Left) Jessica's adoptive parents, Merle and LaVon Hyatt.

excluded, even after I learned that I was adopted.

However, learning that I was adopted did create some unexpected problems. I sometimes have to explain that my adoptive parents are my "real" parents. When I explain my family tree, I often have to draw a chart. I still do not know my biological father, but at least I have a family that will not let me face these problems alone.

I believe that all children deserve to have this kind support. If the child's biological parents cannot provide this support, then why should the child be denied access to parents who will give them the support needed along with a stable home life? It seems that, in a struggle to advance a political agenda, certain groups have forgotten the need of individuals for a home.

TO RETURN TO LEARN:

My

2nd

Career

By Carolyn Barker
Crossroads Contributor

What does return to learn really mean? In my case it meant not only returning to learn, but getting the college degree that I had always desired.

Although I have knowledge acquired over many years of experience, it's not the same as having a diploma.

A diploma would signify that I do have the knowledge, and that I did succeed at something worthwhile.

When I graduated from high school in the 1950s only a few women finished high school. Even fewer sought a college degree.

Women were told that college was a waste of time and money if you plan to marry. Men were encouraged to attend, because they were considered the bread winners of the family and needed the education to serve that purpose.

Women were not encouraged to seek any other careers than marriage. If a woman persisted in seeking a profession, they were encouraged to choose between the noble careers of nursing and teaching.

Money was another factor. Only a few men and women could afford to go to college. Scholarships were scarce and financial aid was

not available for the average person. Any person going to college while married found it very difficult to support a family, therefore many waited until after they finished their education to marry.

At that time college was considered to be for the young and single, not for the retired person, housewife, or a married man who was raising

**When I
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high school in
the 1950s, only
a few women
finished high
school.**

a family and may have wanted a degree to become more successful in the business world.

One of the biggest fears that a person may have about returning to college is can they keep up with the young and quicker minds? Another fear is whether or not the younger students will accept someone who is old enough to be their parents? The last fear, but certainly not least is the fear of making their professors uncomfortable.

I battled with all these fears, until I decided to risk it. To my amazement almost all of my fears were unfounded. Although I had some difficulty getting started, I had a great time and made many new friends, who were in the same situation.

I was tutored a few times by students much younger than I, but that was okay. My life experiences began to pay off, and I used them to my advantage. I found that one of the biggest advantages in returning after my family was grown was that I had very little responsibility, and could dedicate most of my time to my studies.

I even enjoyed the football and basketball games. My husband and I even joined the boosters' club. I also attended many of the concerts and plays, which were great fun.

I received a Bachelors of Arts degree in English, in December 1993. I had put in 20 years of my life as a career woman in business, raising a family, and now I have reached another life long goal.

I plan to study for my masters' degree in the fall of 1994.

A person should never stop learning. There is just too much to seek and find, and the pleasure is more in the seeking than in the finding.

How important is religion to your life?

By Scott Stettes

Crossroads Contributor

Is school a religious experience for you? Webster defines religion as the personal commitment to and serving of God or a god with worshipful devotion, conduct in accordance with divine commands especially as found in accepted sacred writings or declared by authoritative teachers, a way of life recognized as incumbent on true believers, and typically the relating oneself to an organized body of believers.

I've composed a study to reflect the importance of religion in the college arena. The study includes a survey of one-hundred Missouri Southern students from all majors and from all parts of the campus. This project was, to the best of my ability, random and non-discriminative.

In this survey, I asked one simple question. The question was, on a scale from 0 to 10, where would you rank the importance of religion in your life? Some of the answers that I received were pretty common, but there were some quite unexpected. In the very beginning of my project I was using the scale from 1 to 10, but I soon found out that this scale would not work. I neglected to consider that some students are atheists.

"I don't believe in God," said Ryan Stone, sophomore environmental health major.

I changed my scale to 0 to 10 and went on with the study. The results were predictable to a certain extent considering the region in which we live. The study average was a 7.9. Of the students surveyed 46 were female and 54 were male. Of the two sexes the



Craig Smith displays his musical talents on a broom guitar during a Wesley meeting.

CROSSROADS FILE PHOTO

females were more religion oriented than males.

Some students said their spiritual lives had suffered since they started college. A few said they used to go to church regularly at home, but haven't attended any churches here in Joplin. Some said that they were to shy and others just didn't think there was anything here for them.

Well, there is an alternative. It's called on-campus ministries. Southern has a number of religious organizations that can reach most denominations. Such organizations include Koinonia, Baptist Student Union, Newman Club, The Wesley Foundation, The Latter-Day Saints Student Organization, Ecumenical Campus Ministries, and Fellowship of Christian Athletes.

Koinonia is Greek for "fellowship" and they usually attract from 100 to 150 students for attendance at their praise services.

Koinonia and the Baptist Student Union are both located off campus. Koinonia meets at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesdays at College Heights Christian Church, east of the College on Newman Road.

BSU meets at 6:30 p.m. on

Thursdays at the BSU complex north of campus on Duquesne Road. Other organizations meet during the week in the Billingsly Student Center. For more information contact Val Carlisle, coordinator of student activities in BSC room 102, or persons may call her at 625-9320

Although some students think praying is only needed when something bad happens, there are students that are serious about their love for God.

Trent Lovewell, a junior physical education major, said, "My relationship with God is the most important thing in my life."

Spencer Beck, communications major said, "Here on earth doesn't matter, it's later when you get in heaven that counts."

I also learned that religion isn't the right word to use when describing Christians. It's their faith in God that counts.

I, myself, was baptized a year and a half ago and it really changed my life. I owe this to my fiancé' and to on-campus ministries. I love having a relationship with God and enjoy the fellowship with other Christian students. Get involved and please bring a friend.

Don't be paranoid, just be prepared

By Celeste Tarrant-Biancalana

Crossroads Contributor

Due to reported attacks in the last few semesters, students have voiced concern for their safety here on the Missouri Southern campus.

Although no one really wants to think about being attacked, it is best to be prepared for the unexpected. Many students have the attitude that "It couldn't happen to me."

Well, surprise!

No one is exempt from crime.

Lou Angel, a martial arts instructor for 40 years; and Kal Rooks, member Christian Black Belt Association, gave a few safety precautions students can take:

- Walk with someone, especially at night,
- Have your car keys in hand when walking out to your car,
- Carry a body alarm (it's

compact and has a pull-cord),

- Observe the area around you,
- Walk in well-lit areas at

Self-defense classes are good if you practice what you've learned on a regular basis.

night,

- Walk tall with your head up,
- and take a self-defense class.

Self-defense classes are good if you practice what you've learned on a regular basis. Without regular practice, your reaction time lapses and you will not be able to execute what you've learned.

Angel and Rooks say if you are attacked these suggestions may help:

- Yell "FIRE" instead of "HELP,"
- Don't try "movie karate", just go for the groin or knee caps,
- Bite, scratch, or claw your assailant,
- Try to remain as calm as possible. This will give the assailant false confidence. He/she will let their guard down and give you an opening to escape,
- Make a lot of noise,
- If you are grabbed around the neck, don't panic, the assailant's hands aren't free, yours are, use them.

Unfortunately, the world we live in is not as safe as it once was. We can no longer be naive and trust everyone around us, but no one can afford to be paranoid and move to a protected shell.

Don't be paranoid, just be prepared.

Sigma Tau Delta attends convention

By Christine Duncan

Crossroads Contributor

Sigma Tau Delta (the International English Honor Society) spent an eventful 1993-94, which culminated in a trip to the organization's international convention in Memphis, Tennessee.

Ten members, accompanied by advisor Dr. Doris Walters, traveled to Memphis for the March 17-19 convention. Those attending were Kirby Fields, Rhea Lynn Passmore, Mark Sweet, Trenton Tubbs, Tammy

Gardner, Susan Wright, Jean Lozano, Denise Womble, Don McBride, and myself. Besides attending numerous sessions, Missouri Southern's delegation also heard speeches from the poet, Nikki Giovanni, and historian, Shelby Foote. In addition, we visited the National Civil Rights Museum, made a pilgrimage to the Oxford, Mississippi home of William Faulkner, and still found time to sample the world-famous music and nightlife of Beale Street. Senior,

Susan Hylton was unable to attend the convention, but was honored for submitting the best poem published in Sigma Tau Delta's journal, *The Rectangle*.

In recognition of her help and patience during the Memphis trip, members of Sigma Tau Delta surprised their advisor at the English Awards Banquet on April 16, when President Mark Sweet presented Dr. Walters with the Guru Award.





One month is not a lot of time to put together a magazine.

That's the first thing I learned after accepting the position as editor-in-chief of the *Crossroads: The Magazine*. I feel almost like the coach that's hired to coach out the rest of the season after the head coach is fired.

It's not exactly like that because no one was fired in this publication, but personnel changes have been great and plentiful.

Anyway, it was all I could do to just get this issue out on time. With plenty of time to prepare for the first issue of the fall semester, I want to know what you think.

What stories do you want to see in *Crossroads*? What events should we cover? What's wrong with this issue that we can improve on for the fall?

Therefore, I ask you to only fill out the survey below and return it to 337 Webster Hall (next door to *The*

Chart). If the survey is too much trouble, a phone call certainly isn't. Feel free to call with your comments, suggestions, complaints, or questions anytime at 625-9596. I will attempt to answer your questions to the best of my ability, and I promise to find out if I can't answer.

We also started a new feature in this issue called "Contributor's Corner." In this section of the magazine, I invite you to write about your club, event, organization, or whatever. I also invite you to submit photos from your group.

This magazine is supposed to be about the students of this College, I ask you to tell us about the students of this College.

We also have many staff positions available for the fall semester. Call me (once again it's 625-9596) and I'll tell you all about it.

True, the yearbook is gone (Hail, hail, the witch is dead), but this magazine has numerous possibilities and can

Why ASK Why?



By JEFFREY Slatton
Editor-IN-Chief

work with your help.

Thanks in advance for your contributions.

GENERAL QUESTIONS

Sex:
MALE
FEMALE

Marital Status:
SINGLE
MARRIED
DIVORCED
WIDOWED

How many children do you have (if any)?

If you are a student, are you
FULL TIME
PART TIME

WHAT IS YOUR MAJOR/MINOR?

WHAT IS YOUR CLASS IN SCHOOL?

If you are a faculty member,
WHAT DEPARTMENT ARE YOU IN?

HOW MANY YEARS HAVE YOU BEEN AT SOUTHERN?

If you are staff,

HOW MANY YEARS HAVE YOU BEEN AT SOUTHERN?

DO YOU/HAVE YOU ATTENDED CLASSES AT SOUTHERN?

MAGAZINE QUESTIONS

WHAT ISSUES OR EVENTS WOULD YOU LIKE THE MAGAZINE TO COVER?

DO YOU READ ADVERTISEMENTS IN THE MAGAZINE?

IS THERE ANYTHING SPECIFIC YOU DO NOT LIKE ABOUT THE MAGAZINE?

WHAT SPECIFIC SUGGESTIONS DO YOU HAVE TO IMPROVE THE MAGAZINE?

Please return this survey to 337 Webster Hall. Thanks for your cooperation in making this magazine the best it can be.

JEFFREY SLATTON
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

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